

# FRENCH CHILDREN BORN IN CAVES AND DUG-OUTS ON FIRING LINE

By MARTIN GREEN, Staff Correspondent of The Evening World

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It's In The Evening World"

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## Pershing Reports First "Rainbow" Battle MILLION TONS OF DUTCH SHIPS FOR ALLIES

### AMERICAN RED CROSS SAVING CHILDREN OF FRANCE BORN IN CAVES UNDER ROAR OF GUNS

Thousands of Waifs, Rescued Virtually on the Firing Line, Removed to Barracks and Hospitals and Nursed Into Happy, Healthy Human Beings.

By Martin Green.

(Special Staff Correspondent of The Evening World.)

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SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE, Feb. 19.

THE Republic of France, believing in advance of the war, that Germany would attempt an invasion, called upon its male population approaching the age of nineteen years to rally to the defense of the country. This was late in 1913 or early in 1914—the exact time doesn't matter, for this is not a history. In anticipation of the response to the call, the French Republic constructed at certain points along certain strategic lines barracks which were in those days far ahead of anything previously built for soldiers in so far as hygienic aspects are concerned.

It so happens that the French officials in erecting some of these barracks built better than they knew, because the buildings which were intended to shelter—and did shelter for a time—the nineteen-year-old boys who were willing to die for France are now sheltering, through the American Red Cross, children who will live for France. I have heard of a number of instances of this kind; I know of one.

On an eminence adjoining a city close to our lines stands one of these camps, consisting of eight barracks, an administration building and a hospital. Another building, recently erected, is used as a school.

The French Government has turned the plant over to the Red Cross, and the Red Cross unit at this point, under the direction of Mrs. Percy and Louis of Boston and Dr. Sharp of Johns Hopkins, all specialists in the care of children, is engaged in preserving to France children who would otherwise, in all likelihood, be lost to the country, for they are children who at a tender age were caught with their parents in the first German rush into France and held captive in devastated villages, or children who were born in such villages during German occupation or after the Germans had been driven out.

There are 600 children in the institution now, ranging in age from two weeks old to ten years old, and additional little refugees are being brought in every day from ruined villages in the sector covered by this particular unit. The place is worth description because it is of such prime importance to the future development of France, because it is so intensely human and because it has revealed conditions which, judging from the casual observation of a layman, upset all the standard notions of prenatal influence.

More than half the children in the care of the doctors and nurses there were born in caves and dugouts in villages that had been shot to pieces and were continually under gunfire. Many of these children were conceived in caves and dugouts under gunfire, and all of those born since the war began were delivered by mothers who lived hidden in their caves during the day and sneaked out at night for water and food. The children who were old enough to know what was going on lived in the sound of guns and exploding shells.

(Continued on Ninth Page.)

### ANTI-SALOON CHIEF SCORED IN ABANY BY DRYS AND WETS

Anderson's Tactics Repudiated Before Assembly by Leader of Prohibition Fight.

ALBANY, N. Y., March 14.—(By the Associated Press.)—The methods of Superintendent William H. Anderson of the State Anti-Saloon League in the fight for the ratification of the Federal Prohibition amendment and also in previous dry campaigns was voiced in the New York Assembly to-day by Representatives of both the wets and dries and of all parties.

A motion was before the House to deny Mr. Anderson and some other members of the league, particularly Mr. Anderson, the privileges of the Assembly floor. This was finally withdrawn, however, by the introducer, Assemblyman Welch of Albany, who said that the general tenor of the discussion had convinced him that passing its motion would serve no purpose except to "advertise and make a martyr of the men who have to-day upon the floor of this House been called upon to defend a gentleman, but a gentleman."

The discussion, which lasted for nearly two hours, was dominated by the reading by Assemblyman Henry D. Williams of a letter of a letter he received to-day, dated yesterday, and signed by Mr. Anderson as superintendent. The letter, referring to Tuesday's vote in the Assembly when the Macleod amendment was substituted for the McNally ratification resolution, and in part:

"The Anti-Saloon League does not intend to allow any man who represents a district which contains saloons to be a member of the Assembly, and for prohibition to be put in effect with anything so paltry as a resolution as this for lack of explanation of the facts to the people."

The communication also announced the intention of the league to carry on vigorous campaigns against those Assemblymen who voted for the Macleod amendment unless they changed their vote if given an opportunity.

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### PERSHING OFFICIALLY REPORTS RAINBOW TROOPS IN BATTLE

First Cable to Washington Showing That Old 69th and Other Guardsmen Repulsed Raid—Complimented by French General.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—In making public to-day the following report from Gen. Pershing the War Department gave the first official notice that it was the 42d or Rainbow Division, made up of National Guardsmen, which repulsed the German raid on March 5 on the American front in Lorraine.

"Summary of activities on 42d (Rainbow) Division front: Night of 4th and 5th of March enemy attempted trench raid early morning March 5. Raid was repulsed with losses to the enemy. Our losses reported light. No missing or prisoners. Gen. Gerard, commanding 8th French Army, congratulated Division Commander on way in which the troops repulsed raid."

Reports of casualties among the old 69th Regiment had already made known to New Yorkers that the city's soldiers were in actual battle. Mention has been made of troops from Ohio and other States in despatches from the front.

### LONG ISLAND WOMAN IS VICTIM OF LATEST AIR RAID ON PARIS



MISS WINONA MARTIN

### RAILROAD CONTROL BILL READY FOR PRESIDENT

House Adopts Commerce Report, Already Approved by Senate.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—The House today adopted the Commerce Committee report on the proposed railroad control bill, which was already approved by the Senate.

### \$1,325,000,000 NAVAL BILL IS PRESENTED TO HOUSE

WASHINGTON, March 14.—The House today presented to the House the \$1,325,000,000 naval bill, which was already approved by the Senate.

### LONG ISLAND GIRL WAR WORKER DIES IN PARIS AIR RAID

Miss Winona Caroline Martin, Y. W. C. A. Canteen Worker, Is Victim of Bomb.

A Long Island woman war worker was one of the victims of the German air raid on Paris Monday night. Cables received to-day announced the death of Miss Winona Caroline Martin of Rockville Center. A bomb struck a hospital in which she was on duty as a Y. W. C. A. canteen worker. Five other persons in the hospital were killed.

Miss Martin was one of the best known young women in the village. She was about twenty-eight years old and for several years was librarian at the Carnegie Library at Rockville Center. She took a particular interest in the children who patronized the institution, and when she was about to start for France the children of the village contributed toward a fund to outfit her for the service.

Miss Martin started for France only a few weeks ago. Her father was English and her mother French, she spoke French fluently and advanced this as one of the reasons she could be of service at the front. Both her parents are dead and she had been living in Rockville Center with her father's sister and Miss Barbara Robinson, a writer. Her father, when alive, was associated with the late George H. Scott in the publication of scholarly readings. A brother of Miss Martin is now in Europe as a Captain of the Medical Corps.

Two other Americans, Mrs. W. H. Phillips and a Mr. Baker, whose addresses were not given in the cables, are mentioned in the raid on Paris.

### U. S. Army Sergeant Injured in Paris Air Raid.

PARIS, March 14.—A sergeant in the American Army, who was assisting in the evacuation of the wounded in Paris, was injured slightly in the raid on Monday night. A hospital was damaged and six persons were killed and seven injured by bombs dropped by the Germans.

### "BROTHER BILL" GOT HIS LETTER ON DAY HE DIED FOR U. S.

Epistle From G. A. Adkins of Old 69th, Followed by: "Killed in Action."

The letter begins, "Dear Brother Bill," It was written in France by Private George A. Adkins of the old 69th on Jan. 27. Having passed all the necessary checks, it was delivered to-day to the family of the soldier.



G. A. ADKINS

The message without a single errand, it was delivered to "Brother Bill" on March 14, a date to be remembered. To-day a telegram from Washington was delivered to the soldier's mother, Mrs. A. Adkins, No. 14 East 56th Street.

"We deeply regret to inform you that Private George A. Adkins, infantry, is officially reported killed in action March 7."

That was the message. While Adkins and others of the old 69th who had come over the top were being dealt on the battlefield the postman delivered the "Brother Bill" letter, which is the kind of letter American soldiers write before they die.

The Evening World is privileged to print the letter, but first it is well to tell a few things about Private Adkins. He preferred to go as a volunteer, and there was a family conference about it. George and his wife and support of their mother, a widow, George feared that, with the soldier, he would continue to receive free state pay, George could earn from a soldier's pay, the family could be helped. It was agreed. And so, before the postman day the letter was written. In due time he completed his training and went with his regiment to France. Here is the letter:

### HOLLAND SHIPS TO BE SEIZED BY U. S. AND GREAT BRITAIN; 400,000 TONS AT NEW YORK

Netherlands Government Given Until March 18 to Enter Agreement—Will Get Breadstuffs in Return for Taking of Vessels.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—After months of delay and unsuccessful negotiation with the Netherlands, the United States and Great Britain have decided to take over on March 18 for Allied use all Dutch ships in Allied ports unless the Netherlands Government accepts an agreement to that purpose before that time.

This will bring practically a million tons of ships to the aid of the Allies at a time when they are sorely needed.

### 70 IN CASUALTY LIST REPORTED BY PERSHING

Four Soldiers Killed in Action and Two Dead of Wounds—Fifty-four Others Wounded.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—Gen. Pershing's casualty list cabled to-day carries the names of seventy soldiers, four of them killed in action, two dead of wounds, one dead of an accident and nine of disease; fourteen wounded severely and forty slightly wounded.

The list gives the names of two officers, both of whom were reported slightly wounded. They are Capt. Hugh H. Barker and Lieut. B. Smith. Lieut. Bernard Van Hof was reported severely wounded.

The report lists the following: Killed in Action—Corpl Albert E. Reimer, Private Cecil M. Conley, Sergt. Frank O'Connor, Private Fred D. Turner.

Died of Wounds—Private Fred C. Brummett, Sergt. Joseph L. Clip. Accidentally Killed—Private Harry Watson.

### CONDEMNED U. S. SOLDIERS HAVE NOT BEEN REPRIEVED

Classes of Men Who Slept on Post Still in Judge Advocate General's Office, It Is Announced.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—The cases of four American soldiers under death sentence in France for sleeping on duty are still under consideration by the War Department. The men have not been reprieved.

### NEW CONGRESSMEN SEATED.

Four Recently Elected New York Members Sworn In.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—New York's four newly elected Democratic members of Congress were sworn in to-day at the House of Representatives.